



AGC/WSDOT ROADWAY TEAM

MINUTES for Meeting of October 16, 2003

AGC Office, Tacoma WA

Attending:

Frank Scarsella
Dan Glover
Ray Arnold
Melany Vorass
Mia Waters

Brendon Johnson
Joe Spink
Mike Morishige
Larry Eik

Jeff Peterson
Al Dyer
Terry Mattson
Jim Spaid

Minutes of September 18, 2003 Meeting

Distributed copies and no added comments made.

Old Business

Minutes of Other Team Meetings: None of the other AGC/WSDOT teams had met since our last meeting.

Meeting notes from various industry/WSDOT teams may be viewed at the State Construction Office website at the following address:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/biz/construction/Default.cfm>

Retaining Wall Specifications – Section 6-11 through 6-18, 9-03, 9-10, and 9-33.

Jim Spaid gave an update on the progress toward incorporating the retaining wall specifications in the Standard Specifications. The WSDOT review with Bridge Design, Geotechnical Branch and Construction is still in progress. Additional discussions are scheduled for November.

Some input has been received from team members and incorporated into the new specifications. The team was asked to send any additional comments and suggested changes there may be to Jim for further consideration as WSDOT meetings progressed. The Team will be kept up to date as the development process continues.

New Business

DOE Solid Waste Rules Jim Spaid introduced Melany Vorass, Hazardous Materials Team Lead in the WSDOT Environmental Affairs Office. Melany has been following the recent adoption by the Department of Ecology of a new solid waste rule (173-350 WAC). Under the old rule (173-304 WAC) soils were not considered a permitted solid

waste unless they were derived from a cleanup or hazardous waste operation. The new rule considers all construction-derived soils to be solid waste until they can be shown to meet background criteria at the reuse location.

The new rule has already impacted the Hood Canal Bridge project. DOE and Clallum County initially requiring that material excavated from the graving dock site be hauled to a permitted solid waste landfill, or to a site that had been characterized and shown to contain chemical concentrations above those being hauled. These same soils would have been considered to be “clean” under the previous rule.

The rule will have a potentially great impact on WSDOT and other projects where soils need to be imported or excess soils need to be disposed of off site. Melany will continue to follow this issue and provide the team with updates as they become available.

EPA Off-Road Diesel Emission Regulations Mia Waters, Program Manager for Air, Acoustics and Energy for WSDOT to gain insight into the impacts of future regulations on diesel powered construction equipment. The Environmental Protection Agency is in the process of establishing nationwide regulations to move to ultra-low sulfur diesel, to be phased in by 2006. Mia noted that the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency has asked that WSDOT take a lead in implementing the new regulations ahead of the EPA schedule by using special provisions that would require contractors to use ultra-low sulfur diesel and retrofit vehicles to further reduce emissions.

Some of the feedback from AGC members and WSDOT staff included the following:

- Ultra-low sulfur diesel is expected to cost about \$0.15 per gallon more.
- There is a fuel efficiency reduction with the ultra-low sulfur diesel. More fuel will be required to do the same work.
- Cost to retrofit equipment will be \$3000 to \$8000 per vehicle, which will be passed on in bids.
- The greatest impact will be to smaller contractors and disadvantaged business enterprises. These contractors typically buy used equipment, which will have to be retrofitted to come up to standards.
- Availability of adequate amounts of fuel may be an issue for implementation ahead of the EPA schedule.

Mia will use the information from this discussion to help formulate a response to the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency.

Traffic Control Devices – NCHRP 350 Update Jim Spaid indicated that he had discussed the current status of sign standards that meet NCHRP 350 requirements. There has been some confusion over whether roll-up signs could be used on WSDOT construction projects. Jim indicated that the Traffic Office was working on drafting some clarifying revisions to the Standard Specification. At the next meeting of the Roadway Team, there will be an opportunity to review the proposed revisions.

Other Business

Discussion Topics

The following list of topics will be kept as part of the minutes and future agendas to indicate the items that have surfaced as issues for discussion by the team. As each issue is addressed, it may be removed from the list. As new issues are raised, they will be added to the list as a reminder of the things that need discussion:

{Note: Issues that are added will now include the date (11/30/00) they were included on the list so the team can track their longevity }

- Galvanizing of fence products – review of current specs for consistency.
- Shoulder Rock - further discussion of method of payment.
- Smoothness Specification for ACP - this is an issue of information. A subcommittee of the APAW/WSDOT Joint Task Force is working on the specifics of this issue.
- Longitudinal Wedge Joint
- Testing Storm Sewer Pipe - recent changes in the testing requirements for HDPE pipe have increased the length of time for testing.
(5/24/01) - What is the background for those changes?
(9/20/01) - Discussed the duration of the test. Bill G. said why hold it so long when you know within the first few minutes if you have a leak and thus a failing pipe.
- Signal Detector Loops - Suggested the number of bid items could be reduced by bidding loops per each rather than separate bid items for each type of set (for instance, R1, R2, R3, etc. for loop sets of 1, 2 or 3 loops).
- Traffic Control Devices –NCHRP 350
- Structure Excavation Class B – backfilling trenches (5/9/03)
- Aggregate Substitution (5/9/03)

Next Meeting

The next is scheduled **Thursday, December 4, 2003**. The meetings will be held at the Tacoma AGC office beginning at **8:00am**.